

REMARKS

The Applicant appreciates the thorough review and study of the patent application by the Examiner. The amendments suggested for the specification and claims have been made with the exception of the suggestion in the next to last sentence of paragraph 1, which has not been found.

The claims particularly point out new and unobvious features of the invention that have not been found in the references.

As an example, a secondary buffer storing secondary pixel values in claim 1 is not mentioned in Decoste.

An alpha channel that stores tertiary values for the pixels is not found in Decoste, whose alpha channel creates a matte (Column 15, line 61). Decoste's matte protects portions of the image surface (Column 15, line 64).

Decoste is silent about executing the function on the secondary pixel values to the extent of the tertiary values and storing the resultant pixel values as the primary pixel values in the primary buffer and then copying the primary pixel values from the primary buffer to the secondary pixel values stored in the secondary buffer.

Claim 1 is not anticipated by Decoste.

Claim 2 distinguishes from Decoste by teaching choosing a media image, causing an edge of the media image to have less transparency, and adding the media image to a paint layer and brightening parts of the paint layer with the media image. The cited parts of Columns 14, 15 and 16, for example, have none of those features.

Claim 2 is not anticipated by Decoste.

Claim 3 differentiates from Decoste by describing, for example, assigning color value to the alpha channel pixels, brightening the color value and causing edges of an image formed by

the alpha channel pixels to have less transparency. These features are not found in Decoste or in the multiple places cited in Columns 4, 6, 14, 15 and 16 of Decoste.

Claim 3 is not anticipated by Decoste.

Claim 4 further distinguishes from Decoste by pointing out mapping and embossing multiple pixels in the alpha channel and using a result of the embossing for changing brightness and providing highlights of the selected colors thereby providing a sense of depth due to the embossing. Decoste does not provide those features in the selected parts of Columns 4, 6, 8, 14, 15, and 16.

Claim 4 is not anticipated by Decoste.

Claim 5 differentiates from Decoste. As an example, a secondary buffer storing secondary pixel values in claim 5 is not mentioned in Decoste.

An alpha channel that stores tertiary values for the pixels is not found in Decoste, whose alpha channel creates a matte (Column 15, line 61). Decoste's matte protects portions of the image surface (Column 15, line 64).

Decoste is silent about executing the function on the secondary pixel values to the extent of the tertiary values and storing the resultant pixel values as the primary pixel values in the primary buffer and then copying the primary pixel values from the primary buffer to the secondary pixel values stored in the secondary buffer.

Claim 5 is not anticipated by Decoste.

Claim 6 adds to claim 5 choosing a media image, causing edges of the media image to have less transparency, adding the media image to a paint layer, and brightening parts of the paint layer with the media image.

Claim 6 distinguishes from Decoste by teaching choosing a media image, causing an edge of the media image to have less transparency, and adding the media image to a paint layer and brightening parts of the paint layer with the media image. The cited parts of Columns 14, 15 and 16, for example, have none of those features.

Claim 6 is not anticipated by Decoste.

Claim 7 adds to claim 5 providing an image channel with a graphic image having source pixels, providing in the alpha channel alpha channel pixels which are spatially equivalent to the source pixels, assigning color values to the alpha channel pixels, brightening the color values assigned to the alpha channel pixels, and causing edges of an image formed by the alpha channel pixels to have less transparency.

Claim 7 differentiates from Decoste by describing, for example, assigning color value to the alpha channel pixels, brightening the color value and causing edges of an image formed by the alpha channel pixels to have less transparency. These features are not found in Decoste or in the multiple places cited in Columns 4, 6, 14, 15 and 16 of Decoste.

Claim 7 is not anticipated by Decoste.

Claim 8 further adds to claim 5 providing a source channel with source pixels and a color level with selected colors and providing in the alpha channel alpha channel pixels that are spatially equivalent to the source pixels.

Decoste does not describe that combination of the subject matter of claims 5 and 8.

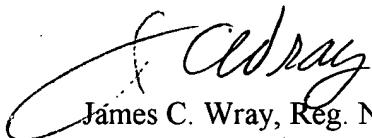
Claim 8 is not anticipated by Decoste.

The claims and specification have been carefully reviewed for accuracy and have been compared with the cited reference. Nothing in the cited reference would have anticipated the elements of the claims.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully,



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